

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-36. **(Canceled)**

37. **(New)** A stream generation apparatus which generates a stream that includes (i) information obtained by coding a command for managing a buffer that holds a decoded picture as a reference picture, and (ii) a coded picture, said apparatus comprising:

a judging unit operable to judge whether or not a first coded picture is a coded picture corresponding to a picture that is to be skipped at a time of trick-play, the first coded picture being added with a first information obtained by coding the command;

a coding unit operable to code same contents as the command shown by the first information, as a second information, when said judging unit judges that the first coded picture is the coded picture corresponding to the picture that is to be skipped at the time of trick-play; and

a generation unit operable to generate the stream, by adding the second information to a second coded picture that follows the first coded picture in decoding order and that corresponds to a picture which is not to be skipped at the time of the trick-play.

38. **(New)** A stream generation apparatus which generates a stream that includes (i) information obtained by coding a command for managing a buffer that holds a decoded picture as a reference picture, and (ii) a coded picture, said apparatus comprising:

a judging unit operable to judge whether or not a first coded picture is a coded picture corresponding to a reference B picture that is to be referable to when another picture is decoded, the first coded picture being added with a first information obtained by coding the command;

a coding unit operable to code same contents as the command shown by the first information, as a second information, when said judging unit judges that the first coded picture is the coded picture corresponding to the reference B picture; and

a generation unit operable to generate the stream, by adding the second information to a second coded picture that follows the first coded picture in decoding order and that corresponds to an I picture or a P picture.

39. **(New)** A stream generation apparatus which generates a stream that includes

(i) information obtained by coding a command for managing a buffer that holds a decoded picture as a reference picture, and

(ii) a first coded picture that is obtained by coding a specific P picture and that is able to be decoded by selectively referring to an I picture or a P picture that precedes, in decoding order, to the specific P picture,

wherein a picture that follows, in the decoding order, the specific picture is defined by not referring to a picture that precedes, in the decoding order, to the specific P picture, and

said apparatus comprising:

a judging unit operable to judge whether or not a second coded picture is a coded picture corresponding to a picture that is not to be referred to when the first coded picture is decoded, the second coded picture being added with a first information obtained by coding the command;

a coding unit operable to code same contents as the command shown by the first information, as a second information, when said judging unit judges that the second coded picture is the coded picture corresponding to the picture that is not to be referred to when the first coded picture is decoded; and

a generation unit operable to generate the stream, by adding the second information to a third coded picture,

the third coded picture that follows, in the decoding order, the second coded picture and that corresponds to a P picture which is referred to when the first coded picture is decoded.

40. (New) A stream reproduction system comprising: (a) a recording medium on which a stream that includes (i) information obtained by coding a command for managing a buffer that holds a decoded picture as a reference picture, and (ii) a coded picture are recorded; and (b) a stream reproduction apparatus which reads the stream from said recording medium and reproduces the stream,

wherein the stream recorded on said recording medium has a structure in which,

when a first coded picture is a coded picture corresponding to a picture that is to be skipped at a time of trick-play, the first coded picture being added with a first information obtained by coding the command,

a second information in which same contents as the command shown by the first information are coded is added to a second coded picture that follows the first coded picture in

decoding order and that corresponds to a picture which is not to be skipped at the time of the trick-play, and

said stream reproduction apparatus, which reads the stream from said recording medium and reproduces the stream, includes

a first decoding unit operable to decode the second information, when the first coded picture is skipped at a time of trick-play;

a buffer management unit operable to hold, in a buffer, the decoded picture as a reference picture, depending on contents of the decoded command; and

a second decoding unit operable to decode the second coded picture.

41. **(New)** A stream reproduction system comprising: (a) a recording medium on which a stream that includes (i) information obtained by coding a command for managing a buffer that holds a decoded picture as a reference picture, and (ii) a coded picture are recorded; and (b) a stream reproduction apparatus which reads the stream from said recording medium and reproduces the stream,

wherein the stream recorded on said recording medium has a structure in which,

when a first coded picture is a coded picture corresponding to a reference B picture that is to be referable to when another picture is decoded, the first coded picture being added with a first information obtained by coding the command,

a second information in which same contents as the command shown by the first information are coded is added to a second coded picture that follows the first coded picture in decoding order and that corresponds to an I picture or a P picture, and

said stream reproduction apparatus, which reads the stream from said recording medium and reproduces the stream, includes

a first decoding unit operable to decode the second information, when the first coded picture is skipped at a time of trick-play;

a buffer management unit operable to hold, in a buffer, the decoded picture as a reference picture, depending on contents of the decoded command; and

a second decoding unit operable to decode the second coded picture.

42. **(New)** A stream reproduction system comprising: (a) a recording medium on which a stream that includes (i) information obtained by coding a command for managing a buffer that holds a decoded picture as a reference picture, and (ii) a first coded picture that is obtained by coding a specific P picture and that is able to be decoded by selectively referring to an I picture or a P picture that precedes, in decoding order, to the specific P picture,

wherein a picture that follows, in the decoding order, the specific picture is defined by not referring to a picture that precedes, in the decoding order, to the specific P picture are recorded; and (b) a stream reproduction apparatus which reads the stream from said recording medium and reproduces the stream,

wherein the stream recorded on said recording medium has a structure in which,

when a second coded picture is a coded picture corresponding to a picture that is not to be referred to when the first coded picture is decoded, the second coded picture being added with a first information obtained by coding the command,

a second information in which same contents as the command shown by the first information are coded is added to a third coded picture that follows, in the decoding order, the second coded picture and that corresponds to a P picture which is referred to when the first coded picture is decoded, and

said stream reproduction apparatus, which reads the stream from said recording medium and reproduces the stream, includes

a first decoding unit operable to decode the second information, when the second coded picture is skipped at a time of trick-play;

a buffer management unit operable to hold, in a buffer, the decoded picture as a reference picture, depending on contents of the decoded command; and

a second decoding unit operable to decode the third coded picture.